



BIG 12 CONFERENCE NEWS

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BIG 12 CONFERENCE CONCLUDES SPRING MEETINGS

Colorado Springs - The Big 12 Conference concluded its annual spring meetings on Thursday at The Broadmoor. The session was conducted with the full Joint Council consisting of Faculty Athletics Representatives, Directors of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrators representing each of the member institutions.

Discussion focused on several issues, including academic performance as well as numerous items related to game management at conference events. In addition, a decision was made to form a committee to analyze various formats regarding the Big 12 men's and women's basketball championships. There was also a consensus to continue a 16-game league schedule in the sport of basketball.

The University of Nebraska was awarded the 2007 Big 12 Outdoor Track & Field Championship, while the University of Colorado will host the 2008 event.

Commissioner Kevin Weiberg also announced that the Conference anticipates distributing \$102.5 million to the membership for this fiscal year.

Quotes from Commissioner Kevin Weiberg

“We wrapped up the session with really no new additional issues to report. We focused on matters related to game management and the ongoing fan behavior in regards to rushing the court and field and the visiting team atmosphere. It is all subject to the presidents' approval in June.”

“We did support uniform security for the visiting team, which existed at some institutions but was not consistent throughout the membership. Our plan is to enforce a protocol and procedure in this area. The Conference will also be promoting public awareness of fan behavior to encourage good behavior.”

“We will form a task force or committee to address the basketball postseason championship format, specifically the days of the week in which our games are played. It has been an ongoing concern from our men's basketball coaches about the Sunday championship game. We will have a better sense of the format by January 2007 so that we can move forward with our television partners to focus on the future.”

“Academic standards were also at the forefront of our discussions. We reviewed the APR numbers are the first two years and the performances by sport. There is a feeling we will see improvement over time and as consequences are issued.”